

NEW YORK STUDIO SCHOOL

OF DRAWING, PAINTING & SCULPTURE

Spring 2024

Saturday Afternoon Painting – IN-PERSON

Instructor: Rosie Lopeman
Class Hours: Saturdays, 2pm – 6pm ET
First Class: February 3, 2024
Last Class: April 13, 2024

Course Description

This in-person painting class will focus on perceptual oil painting, working from both the model and from still life. Students will be encouraged to work against their habits and be experimental, focused and process-oriented. Each class is a chance to inhabit the physical, visual world of paint and think primarily through the hand and eye — a necessary break from the usual verbal show. Amidst this vast territory, here are some of the topics we will cover: basic practices and materials of oil paint; the search for light; color as metaphor; color relationship; color temperature, value, and opacity/transparency; honing our skills of mimicry; patience and deep concentration in painting; the excavation of image through the process; reading our own work and the work of others; and befriending chaos.

Course Outline

We will be working from figure models and complex still lives each week. We will begin by using very limited palettes, and over the course of the eleven weeks expand to using a full range of color. Alongside this progression from a simple to complex set of colors, there will be an inverse progression in subject matter, from complex to simple; we will start by dealing with the figure reclining in space and eventually take on the challenges of portraiture. There will be a range of durations of poses; some days we may make multiple quick small paintings, and other times we will have the opportunity to work on a painting for multiple weeks.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course students will be equipped to set up their own oil painting practice outside of class. They will learn to sustain a longer painting as well as how to work quickly from life. Students will have a deepened appreciation for the history of art and will be able to relate their work to the work of others in a productive, constructive way.

Assessable Tasks

Students will create between 6 and 10 medium sized oil paintings, as well as at least 6 small oil studies.

Evaluation and Grading

NYSS MFA students participating in this course will receive grades. Grading is on a High Pass/Pass/Low Performance/Fail basis. To achieve a Pass grade, students must be present and show consistent effort and engagement with class projects.

Materials and supplies

A range of prepared surfaces:

Stretched canvases preferred (ranging in size from 8"x10" to 30"x40").

Also acceptable: loose canvas or gesso-primed paper

Brushes etc.:

3 Sealable jars or containers for turpenoid and oil (recommended: one "Silicoil" brush cleaning tank, available at all art stores)

Assorted oil brushes, a variety of sizes & shapes. At least one large round.

Many rags (old t-shirts) or paper towels

Palette (16x20" glass preferred, wood, plexi or disposable are acceptable)

Single edge razor blades and holder

1-2 medium palette knives.

Linseed Oil

Turpenoid or Odorless Mineral Spirits (No turpentine or varnishes permitted at NYSS)

Two Soaps: The Masters Brush Cleaner and Preserver (comes in a tub) + The Masters Artist Soap (green bar soap)

Colors:

Titanium White, Ivory Black, Lemon Yellow, Cadmium Yellow Medium, Yellow ochre, Cadmium Red Medium, Cad Red Lt, Alizarin Crimson, Ultramarine Blue, Cobalt Blue, Permanent Green Light, Viridian Green, Turquoise, Violet (Egyptian, Dioxazine or Windsor) and Magenta (Quinacradone), raw umber, raw sienna.

PLUS any other colors you wish to bring. Any brand is acceptable.

School, Department & Class Policies

Please refer to the Student Handbook for information regarding the School's policies on academic integrity and plagiarism. All students must abide by the general health and safety regulations laid out in the Student Handbook, as well as any specific instructions given by the Instructor. All students will follow the School's current COVID-19 guidelines and procedures to maintain a healthy and safe working environment for the NYSS community.